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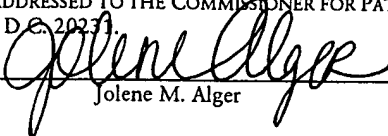
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PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: HEIDI M. MUNNELLY et al.
Serial No.: 10/040,241
Filed: November 9, 2001
For: HIGH SPEED NEGATIVE
WORKING THERMAL
PRINTING PLATES

Examiner: HAMILTON, Cynthia
Group Art Unit: 1752
Docket No. 58575-279182

Box Non-Fee Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

I CERTIFY THAT, ON JANUARY 29, 2003, THIS PAPER IS BEING
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231


Jolene M. Alger

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on December 31, 2002 in which all pending claims 1-45 were subject to restriction. In particular, the position was taken by the Examiner that the application includes claims directed to two distinct inventions. The Examiner states that the claims of Group I, claims 1-14 and 22-39, are drawn to a composition and printing plate precursor, while the claims of Group II, claims 15-21 and 40-45 are drawn to a process of making a printing plate and the printing plate made.

By this response, the Applicant elects to prosecute Group I claims 1-14 and 22-39 in this application. This election is made with traverse.

The Applicant maintains that the application can be examined in its entirety without serious burden to the Examiner. The subject matter of Group I claims and the subject matter of Group II claims are in the same class. No additional searching burden would be required of the Examiner for the examination of both Group I claims and Group II claims.

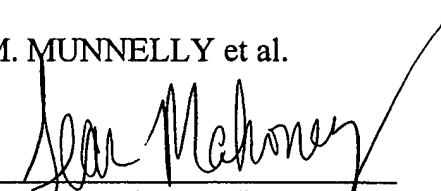
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction is requested.

Examination of the application is requested. No fee is believed to be necessary for this response. Should a fee be required for entry of this paper, the applicant requests that our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 be charged for the fee, and that we are notified of such action.

Respectfully Submitted,

HEIDI M. MUNNELLY et al.

By:


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Dated: January 29, 2003